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HOUSE MEMORIAL 76

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY

Rhonda S. King

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE ATHLETIC PROWESS, ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND
COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS OF CURTIS LEE BEACH AND ACKNOWLEDGING
THE GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION OF JULY 1, 2009 AS "CURTIS LEE
BEACH DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, Curtis Lee Beach of Albuquerque was named the
Gatorade national boys track and field athlete of the year on
July 1, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Curtis is the first New Mexican athlete to ever
receive this esteemed award; and

WHEREAS, every year, Gatorade, in partnership with *ESPN*
RISE, bestows this prestigious award on elite athletes who have
demonstrated not only athletic excellence, but standards of
academic achievement and exemplary character; and

WHEREAS, an advisory board of sportswriters and sports-

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1 specific experts from around the country selected Curtis Beach
2 from more than five hundred forty-eight thousand high school
3 track and field athletes nationwide; and

4 WHEREAS, Curtis, who graduated from the Albuquerque
5 academy shortly before receiving the award, maintained a 3.75
6 grade point average and was recruited by more than forty
7 colleges and universities before selecting Duke university,
8 which he is currently attending and where he will compete in
9 track and field; and

10 WHEREAS, Curtis, a decathlete, shattered the sixteen-year-
11 old national prep decathlon record at the Arcadia invitational
12 in the spring of 2009, scoring seven thousand nine hundred nine
13 points, making him the highest scoring decathlete in United
14 States high school history and setting personal bests in the
15 high jump, the javelin, the four-hundred-meter dash, the shot
16 put and the one-thousand-five-hundred-meter run; and

17 WHEREAS, the six-foot, one hundred sixty-five pound
18 decathlete holds all-class state records in the two-hundred-
19 meter dash, the one-hundred-ten-meter hurdles and the long
20 jump; and

21 WHEREAS, he won the great southwest track and field
22 classic in Albuquerque three years in a row and secured the USA
23 track and field junior outdoor championships decathlon title in
24 2009; and

25 WHEREAS, Curtis Beach has had a progressive career of
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1 athletic success, beginning in 1997 when he first joined club
2 speedy in Moriarty, kicking off his running career; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2007, Curtis placed fourth in the
4 international association of athletics federations world youth
5 championships in the octathlon; in 2008, he was named the New
6 Mexico sports hall of fame high school athlete of the year; and
7 in 2009, the *Albuquerque Journal* named him prep male athlete of
8 the year; and

9 WHEREAS, Curtis was the high point individual four times,
10 from 2006 to 2009, in the New Mexico state track and field
11 class 4A championships; and

12 WHEREAS, he was a gold medalist in the pentathlon three
13 times in the national scholastic indoor track and field
14 championships; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2009, Curtis competed in and won the decathlon
16 in the Pan American junior athletics championships in Trinidad
17 and Tobago; and

18 WHEREAS, in addition to his many remarkable achievements
19 in sports, Curtis served as a volunteer coach for the
20 Albuquerque track club, assistant coach of Whittier elementary
21 school, a camp counselor for the New Mexico wheelchair games
22 and participated in fundraising efforts in support of cancer
23 research; and

24 WHEREAS, in the words of Albuquerque academy head track
25 and field coach Adam Kedge, Curtis "is truly the epitome of the

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1 ultimate multi-sport athlete. I've seen him put in five, six
2 or seven hour days just training with his coaches; then he
3 still finds the time to be a good student and give back to his
4 community"; and

5 WHEREAS, according to Jeff Urban, Gatorade senior vice
6 president of sports marketing, "without question Curtis is
7 deserving of recognition as the nation's best high school track
8 and field athlete; he represents everything we hope for in a
9 Gatorade player of the year"; and

10 WHEREAS, in recognition of his achievements and to honor
11 his accomplishments, Governor Bill Richardson issued a
12 proclamation declaring July 1, 2009 as "Curtis Lee Beach Day";

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
14 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the athletic
15 prowess, academic success and community contributions of Curtis
16 Lee Beach be recognized and the governor's proclamation of July
17 1, 2009 as "Curtis Lee Beach Day" be acknowledged in the house
18 of representatives; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to Curtis Lee Beach, his parents, Jeana King-Beach
21 and David Beach, and to his grandparents, Don and Dorothy King.